

TOP SECRET

26 June 1959

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN



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DAILY BRIEF

I. THE COMMUNIST BLOC

OK *USSR-Balkan "Zone of Peace": Moscow's formal call, in its 25 June notes to 10 nations, for an atom- and rocket-free zone in the Balkans and Adriatic is a further bloc effort to bring pressure on the West to modify plans for establishing missile bases in Greece, Italy, and Turkey. The notes, in suggesting a "great-powers guarantee" of the security and independence of the countries in the zone, are intended to elicit a more direct American, British, and French reaction to the Soviet campaign against rocket bases. Moscow probably believes that rejection of its overture would serve to justify a future Soviet decision to establish rocket bases in Albania and other satellites. Continued Soviet attention to the atom-free zone issue suggests that the USSR anticipates that the broader questions of disengagement and disarmament in Europe will be raised in future high-level East-West negotiations.

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NC *Union of South Africa: The government has recently made several moves reflecting official concern over the possibility that African elements may take violent action on 26 June, but the American Embassy believes that disturbances will be of local character and that the police will be able to cope with them. The African National Congress (ANC) has reportedly called for rallies on 28 June as well. Since 3 June, authorities, in renewed repression of native political movements, have banned political activities on the part of at least five prominent anti-government leaders, including the three top officials of the ANC. These moves will probably force the ANC into increased clandestine and subversive activity

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DAILY BRIEF

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I. THE COMMUNIST BLOC

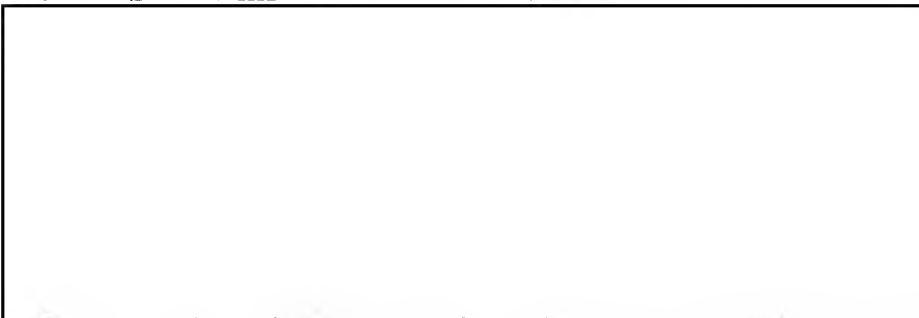
Moscow Formally Proposes Balkan-Adriatic "Zone of Peace"

In notes on 25 June to the United States, France, Great Britain, Italy, Greece, Turkey, Yugoslavia, Bulgaria, Albania, and Rumania, the Soviet Union formally proposed creation of an atom- and rocket-free zone for the Balkan and Adriatic area. According to the Soviet plan, the United States, Britain and France would join the USSR in "guaranteeing the security and independence" of the countries in the zone--expanding a recent Rumanian proposal--and "facilitate in every way its establishment." The notes expressed regret that Italy, Turkey, and Greece in permitting missile bases on their territories had created a "serious obstacle" to the creation of such a zone and suggested that these nations "heed the sensible voice of their neighbors before it is too late."

The notes pointed with favor to the Rumanian proposal for a conference of the heads of government of the Balkan countries to "discuss pressing matters concerning that area" and cited a statement on 8 June by President Tito as support for creation of the zone.

This latest move on the part of the USSR climaxes the Soviet bloc diplomatic and propaganda attack on projected American missile bases in Italy, Greece, and Turkey. Since Khrushchev's call during his recent Albanian visit for the creation of an atom-free zone, formal notes have been issued to Greece and Italy by the Soviet Union, Rumania, Bulgaria, and Albania, interspersed with a strong propaganda campaign on the subject.

The notes of 25 June were probably designed to force a more direct American, British, and French reaction to the bloc campaign. The Soviet leaders probably feel that any Western rejection of this formal proposal could be used to justify the installation of Soviet missile bases in Albania and the other satellites.



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